Asked whether there was any necessity for such a thing and whether the transactions could be made public, the member replied that, whether private or public, the matter should be known to all and be made available so as to give no room for forgery or cheating.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao said *per contra* that, if any one wanted information about the lands, he might approach the Sub-Registrar.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT NO. 72.

Reorganization of the Police Department.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The Police department may be thoroughly reorganized and made a technical department. Officers from other departments, such as Revenue, Excise, etc., may not be drafted to the Police department.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT NO. 73.

Visitors to police lock-ups.

Mr. S. Sitaramaiya, Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Respectable persons may be authorised to pay surprise visits to police lock-ups. This will materially reduce cases of ill-treatment of persons confined therein.

Mr. Krishnamurti stated that the police were generally charged with ill-treatment of prisoners, and if visitors were allowed, they would enquire and record their opinion in the register kept for the purpose. It is in the interests of the police that such a thing should be done. Respectable non-official gentlemen may be selected by the Deputy Commissioners concerned.

Mr. Santanam Iyengar added that under-trial prisoners often complained of ill-treatment before Magistrates, but no notice was usually taken except adding a foot-note if injuries were noticed, and that if there was a visitors' book, the fact that such injuries had been noticed would be evidence.

Reply of Government.—We shall try.

SUBJECT NO. 74.

Dafadars to be empowered to investigate cases of criminal complaint.

Messrs. Hutchviregowda, Gubbi taluk; Ramiah and Hanumiah Setti, Malvalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly the police dafadars in charge of sub-stations were submitting first information reports in respect of cases reported in their jurisdiction and taking the initiative for investigation. This practice has been discontinued. Under the present procedure the station dafadar has to merely give information of the occurrence to the officer in charge of the range who submits the first information report. At times there will be a delay of at least two or three days in the issue of the first information report and in the appearance of the Range Officer at the scene of the occurrence, as he is in charge of three or four stations. The delay thus caused will give time to the accused to get up his own defence and thus the evidence for the prosecution will not be readily collected and there is every probability of the case